

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-12 (Cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A container assembly comprising: a container and a cap; the container including a base, and a neck for engagement with the cap, an end of the neck defining a container mouth; the neck being substantially symmetrical about a central vertical axis, the neck forming a flexible lip proximate the mouth, with an upper generally frusto-conical exterior sealing surface, the lip having a lower generally frusto-conical interior sealing surface; the cap including a top, a skirt depending peripherally from the top, at least one first annular sealing protrusion depending from an interior surface of the top, and at least one second annular sealing protrusion depending from an interior surface of the top; wherein, upon engagement of the cap with the neck, the first sealing protrusion sealingly engages the lower interior sealing surface, and the second sealing protrusion engages the upper exterior sealing surface; and, wherein at least one of a group consisting of the interior sealing surface, the exterior sealing surface, at least a portion of the second sealing protrusion, and at least a portion of the first sealing protrusion is prepared to have a coarsened or polished surface so that gas can flow into or out of the container assembly as required and further including an additional annular protrusion depending from the interior surface of the top of said cap, the additional annular protrusion being radially outside of the first and second sealing protrusions and, upon engagement of the cap with the container, radially outside the lip; the additional annular protrusion being sufficiently rigid and extending low enough and close enough to the flexible lip upon engagement of the cap with the container, to resist the lip from moving outwardly.

14. (previously presented) The container assembly of claim 13 wherein the texture of at least two of a group consisting of the interior sealing surface, the exterior sealing surface,

at least a portion of the second protrusion, and at least a portion of the first protrusion is prepared.

15. (previously presented) The container assembly of claim 13 wherein only the texture of the at least a portion of the at least one first sealing protrusion is prepared.

16. (previously presented) The container assembly of claim 13 wherein only the texture of the exterior sealing surface is prepared.

17. (previously presented) The container assembly of claim 13 wherein only the texture of the interior sealing surface is prepared.

18. (original) The container assembly of claim 13, the cap further including an additional annular protrusion depending from the interior surface of the top, the additional annular protrusion being radially outside of the first and second sealing protrusions and, upon engagement of the cap with the container, radially outside the lip; the additional annular protrusion being sufficiently rigid and extending low enough and close enough to the flexible upon engagement of the cap with the container, to resist the lip from moving outwardly.

19. (original) The cap and container assembly of claim 13, wherein the container is manufactured of a flexible plastic material.

20. (original) The cap and container assembly of claim 13, wherein the cap is manufactured of a flexible plastic material.